

NEWS RELEASE

October 4, 2005

MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

411 NORTH 5TH ST

SHELTON, WA 98584

(360) 427-9670 EXT. 419

TO: KMAS, KRXY, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN, SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, THE SUN

RE: Burn Ban Lifted

Craig Haugen, Mason County Fire Marshal, has announced that the Mason County burn ban, which has been in effect since August 10th, has been lifted as of 8:00 a.m. on October 4, 2005.

The fire danger has been reduced enough to allow open burning to occur. "The lifting of the burn ban", says Mr. Haugen, "is also a good time to remind Mason County residents and property owners of the various regulations that apply to open burning."

Open Burning Rules for Unincorporated Mason County

Land clearing fires, used for the disposal of trees, stumps, shrubbery, or other natural vegetation from on-site land clearing projects, are allowed in certain areas of unincorporated Mason County. A written permit from a Mason County Fire Warden is required.

In areas designated as Smoke Management Zones, only residential yard debris fires (no larger than 4' x 4') and recreational fires are allowed. Written permits are not required for residential yard debris and recreational fires.

Please call 427-9670 or 275-4467, ext. 459 for permit information and information on Smoke Management Zone locations.

Open Burning Rules for City of Shelton Urban Growth Area

Only recreational fires are allowed in the Shelton Urban Growth Area. Land clearing fires and residential yard debris fires are prohibited. By definition, a recreational fire is a cooking fire or campfire, using charcoal or firewood that occurs in designated area or on private property for cooking, pleasure, or ceremonial purposes. Fires used for debris disposal purposes are not considered recreational fires.

Charcoal and gas barbeque appliances area also allowed in Urban Growth Areas.

The use of burn barrels is illegal throughout the state for any outdoor fire.

Questions about opening burning within the Shelton Urban Growth Area can be directed to the City of Shelton Fire Marshal at 432-5170.

Residents in the unincorporated areas of Mason County can contact the Mason County Fire Marshal Information Line at 427-7799.

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